

NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Eastern District of Texas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: March 31, 2005

Contact: Davilyn Brackin
Public Affairs Specialist

(409) 839-2538

DENTON MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FIREARMS CHARGES

Sherman, Texas – A 52-year-old Denton man has pleaded guilty to possessing a firearm during a crime of violence. **VERNON RANDALL TODD** pleaded guilty yesterday before United States District Judge Paul Brown.

According to evidence presented in court, an investigation into an incident not related to this charge resulted in a search of Todd's residence on January 26, 2005. The search revealed numerous firearms, silencers, and a homemade explosive device, commonly referred to as a Molotov Cocktail. Todd pleaded guilty to possessing the silenced firearm and the Molotov Cocktail.

Todd faces a minimum of 30 years in federal prison and a fine of up to \$250,000 at sentencing. A sentencing date has not been set.

Todd is being prosecuted under the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) initiative. PSN is a comprehensive strategic approach to reducing gun violence in America by promoting partnerships among federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies.

The case is being investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives and the Denton Police Department. Special Assistant United States Attorney Josh Burgess is prosecuting the case.
####